CONSTITUTION

Article I. Name

This Organization shall be known as the Middlebury College Minority Alumni Association

Article II. Purpose

To work with the College in an attempt to increase the number of minority members in the College community, to improve the social and academic life of Middlebury's minority group students, to work with the Placement Office in assisting minority group members with employment and graduate school placement and to work with the College in the general improvement of Middlebury College for all students.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. There shall be three types of members, Active, Honorary and Auxiliary. All members shall have voting rights.

Section 2. Active Members. Members shall include all former students from minority groups who have matriculated at Middlebury College or the Women's College of Middlebury and whose names and addresses are on file at the Alumni Office of the College.

Section 3. Honorary Members. A) Any minority group member who has received an Honorary Degree from the College shall be an Honorary Member. B) Anyone who, because of official position or special interest would contribute to the effectiveness of the organization, may be elected an Honorary Member by voice vote at any Council Meeting. C) Honorary Members shall possess all the rights of Active members except the right to hold office.

Section 4. Auxiliary Members. Parents or guardians of Active Members shall be invited to participate in the activities of the Association. Auxiliary members do not possess the right to hold office.

Article IV. Executive Council

Section 1. Purpose. The General Administrative body of the Association shall be the Executive Council. This group shall serve the interests of the Association, shall approve or disapprove projects put forth by members of the Association and others, shall initiate and carry out all such undertakings as are reasonably within the province of such a body, and shall adopt measures necessary to interpret and put into effect the provisions of this constitution.

Section 2. Membership.

1) 12 active members of the Association elected by the association will constitute the Executive Committee. No more than 4 members may be from the same graduating class.

2) Administrators and Faculty members from minority groups may be asked to serve ex-officio on the Council.

3) All Trustees and former Trustees from minority groups shall serve ex-officio for life.

Section 3. Officers. The officers of the Executive Council shall be the officers of the Association:

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Corresponding Secretary

Section 4. Nomination. Nomination for election to the Executive Council can be made by any Active Member. Self-nomination is encouraged.

Section 5. Election.

1) Nominations for Council members shall be solicited through a nominating ballot circulated by the Election Committee at least six weeks prior to the Annual Meeting of the Association.

2) Term of Office. For this initial election, the term of office for the five (5) officers will be for three (3) years. Among the remaining seven (7) Council members, four (4) will be elected to serve a term of two (2) years, and three (3) will be elected to serve a term of one (1) year. Hereafter, all terms will be for three (3) years.

3) Voting Procedure. The ballot will be subdivided into two categories consisting of officers and members at large. Each member of the Alumni Association has a maximum of twelve (12) votes; five (5) votes to be cast for officers and seven (7) votes to be cast for members at large. No more than one (1) vote can be cast for a candidate in each category. The nominee who receives a plurality of votes from the ballots returned will hold that position.

Section 6. Funds. The officers of the Executive Council shall be responsible for the distribution of funds under the direct orders of the Council. A budget shall be set each year at the Annual Meeting. A majority of the Council is needed to pass on all monetary matters. The finances of the Association shall be supervised by the Treasurer. Three signatures shall be required on all checks: The President, the Treasurer, and one other designated Council member who is not an officer. Expenditures of under _____(amount) can be made by the President and the Treasurer acting together without prior approval of the Council. All financial actions are subject to subsequent review by the Council. A detailed financial report is to be mailed to each member of the Association three times a year.

Article V.

Amendments to the Constitution and by-laws can be made by a two-thirds vote of the active members of the Association. Emergency by-laws that can be inactive for three months can be enacted by the Executive Council.

Passed: July 2, 1977